Welcome to Roland Park Presbyterian Church.
We're glad you're here!

November 22, 2026



Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that.
Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that.

~ Martin Luther King Jr.

ROLAND PARK
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WELCOME

Thank you for joining us today. We hope that today's service will be meaningful for you. You can always visit our website for the latest happenings and information.
https://www.rolandparkchurch.org/

If this is your first time with us, you can email Pastor Mark to introduce yourself and learn more about the congregation: pastor@rolandparkchurch.org

If you would like to connect with our Christian Education Program, please email our Director of Christian Education, Dr. Shayla Redfearn: DCE@rolandparkchurch.org

To connect with our choirs, please email our Director of Music, Dr. Phillip Collister-Murray: pcollister@towson.edu

All are welcome in our worship service, including infants and children. We also have a nursery room where childcare is provided. With the exception of the first Sunday of each month, there is also an optional "Bridge to Worship" time where children may choose to leave the sanctuary with our Christian Education team to engage in an age-appropriate worship activity. It will be announced and children will be invited to come forward. They will return to the sanctuary by the end of the service.

If you have any questions or need help finding anything, please ask anyone wearing a name tag. We will be happy to help you.

*If you are able, please stand.

AUDIOFETCH HEARING ASSISTANCE

AUDIOFETCH APP FOR IPHONE

AUDIOFETCH APP FOR ANDROIDS

Stream Real Time Audio to Your Personal Device

1. Download and open the free AudioFetch app from the app store on your device.
2. In the sanctuary, connect your device Wi-Fi to the network: AudioFetchExpress.
3. Connect your device to air pods or earbuds to listen to real time audio streaming.

THE SERVICE OF THE LORD'S DAY
November 22, 2026 10:30 AM

PRELUDE Hymn of Grateful Praise Michael Helmann
Chancel Handbell Choir

WELCOME
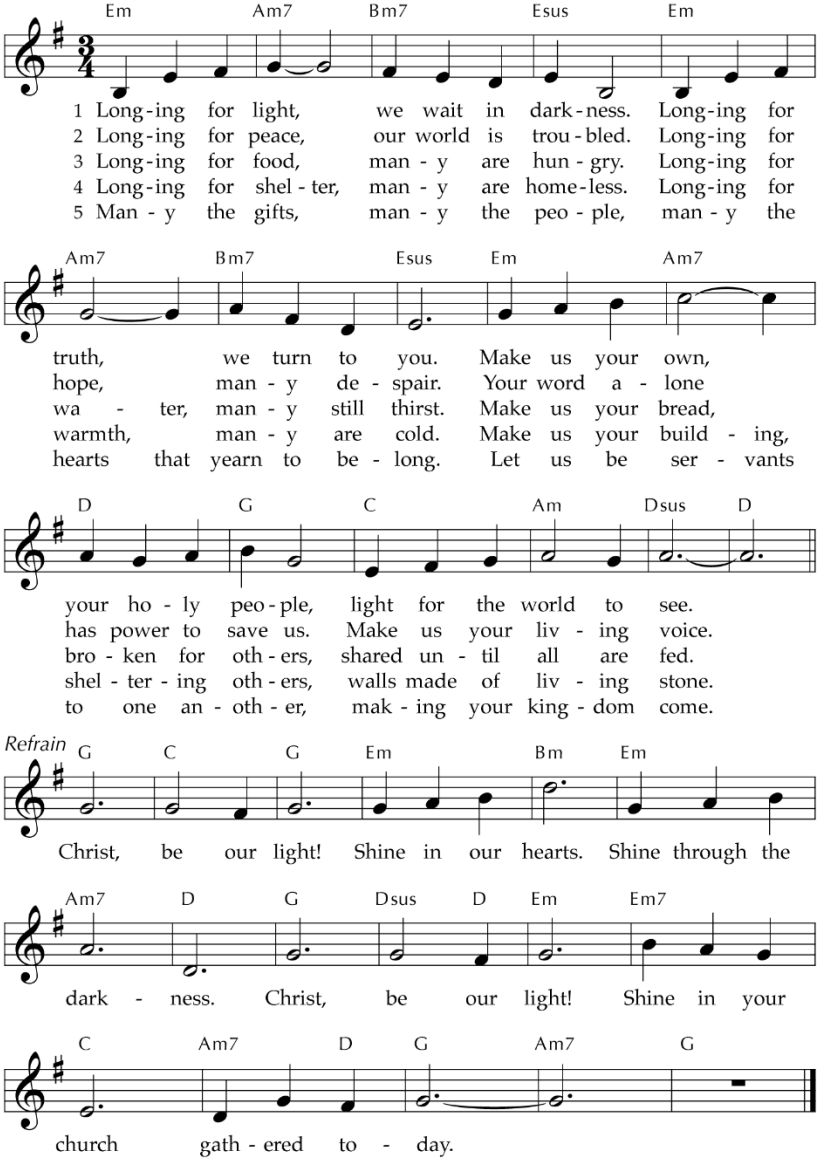
***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Come up to God's house
to learn God's ways.
Come up to God's house
to set aside ways of war.
Come up to God's house
to be taught by the One whose path is peace.

***HYMN #314** Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness 314

Christ, Be Our Light



By blending biblical images and current vignettes in the present tense, this hymn connects Christ's promise that he is the Light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5) and his charge to his followers to be the light of the world (Matthew 5:14). This is part of the church's servant calling.

TEXT and MUSIC: Bernadette Farrell, 1993
Text and Music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell (Published by OCP)

CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT
9.8.9.6 with refrain

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

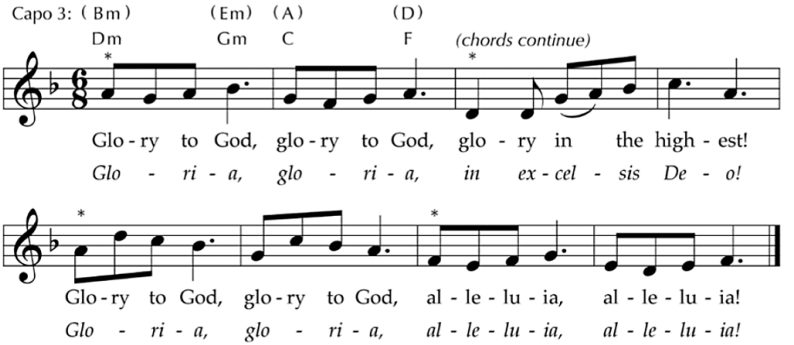
You are our God,
and you promise we will live secure held by your hand.
Yet we feel uncertain,
our safety always feels precarious,
we don't know how to manage the change we are living through,
and we confess we are easily swayed by people who paint a picture that scares us.
We admit that we could be persuaded by the voices who say it's naive to trust you.
Forgive us when we believe the other voices that call out to us.
Forgive us when we are more attached to the place we meet you than we are to you.
Forgive us when we think we have to save ourselves.
Bring us instead to you,
and give us strength to push forward into the future you are even now bringing to birth.
We ask in the name of the One who saves.
Amen.

Time of Silent Prayer

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

Hear this good news: God's word comes out to us and calls us in, that we may learn the truth of our ways. In that truth is love, freedom, and hope for abundant life. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

GLORY TO GOD



PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM O Day of Peace — C. Hubert H. Perry
Chancel Choir — JERUSALEM

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Your word rings out, O God, your voice echoes in every land, for you are the One whose powerful love reigns in every place. When we are afraid, remind us that we are your people, you have called us by name. Set our voices to singing your goodness and our feet to walking your way. Amen.

GOD'S STORY Isaiah 2:1-4
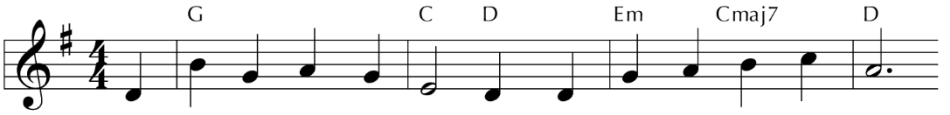
The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.
In days to come
the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.
Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.
He shall judge between the nations
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation;
neither shall they learn war any more.

For the Word of God in scripture,
For the Word of God among us,
For the Word of God within us,
Thanks be to God.
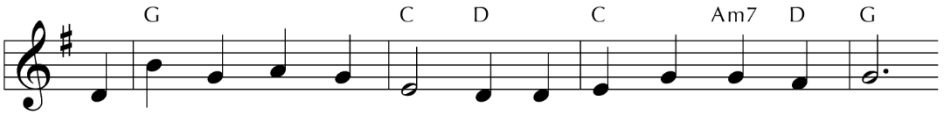
MESSAGE Growing in Love Pastor Mark

***HYMN #378** We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom MERLE'S TUNE
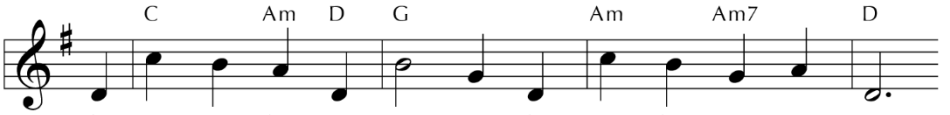
We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom 378
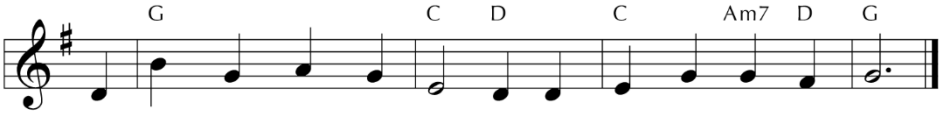


1 We wait the peace - ful king - dom, when wolf and lamb shall lie
2 Where is the peace - ful king - dom? When will this new day start?
3 When wars of des - o - la - tion and hate come to an end,
4 That lit - tle child shall lead us to walk the cho - sen way,



in gen - tle - ness and friend - ship with - out a fear or sigh,
We long for peace and com - fort to reign with - in each heart.
when na - tion meets with na - tion and calls the oth - er "friend,"
to share the peace - ful king - dom, to greet God's new - born day.



when li - on shall be graz - ing, when snake shall nev - er strike;
Yet not in our lives on - ly, nor sim - ply in our home:
still peace in all its full - ness will on - ly have be - gun:
The child born in a sta - ble is sent to break our chains,



a lit - tle child shall lead us both strong and weak a - like.
we pray that all cre - a - tion will one day find sha - lom.
sha - lom for all cre - a - tion be - gins with jus - tice done.
to bring through word and ta - ble the day when jus - tice reigns.

This text paraphrases Isaiah 11:6–9 in the first stanza, then reflects on that passage in widening frames of reference from self to all creation and identifies its "little child" with one born at Bethlehem. The tune is named for the composer's sister, his first piano teacher.

TEXT: Kathleen R. Moore, 2010
MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 1983
Text © 2010 The Hymn Society (admin. Hope Publishing Company)
Music © 1983 Hope Publishing Company

MERLE'S TUNE
7.6.7.6.D

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

During the prayer there will be a time for you to give voice to your own prayers, after which the leader will say, "Lord, in your mercy," or "Lord, we give thanks," and the entire congregation responds, "Hear our prayer."

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING

We offer our time, talent and treasure in gratitude to God. Thank you for your gifts in support of our shared ministry. For your convenience, we offer these electronic giving options (fees involved): Use PayPal @RolandParkChurch or Text RPPC to 73256 and follow prompts.

Offertory — I Have Longed for Thy Saving Health, O Lord — William Byrd
Chancel Soloists

*Doxology (Hymn #606) — OLD HUNDREDTH
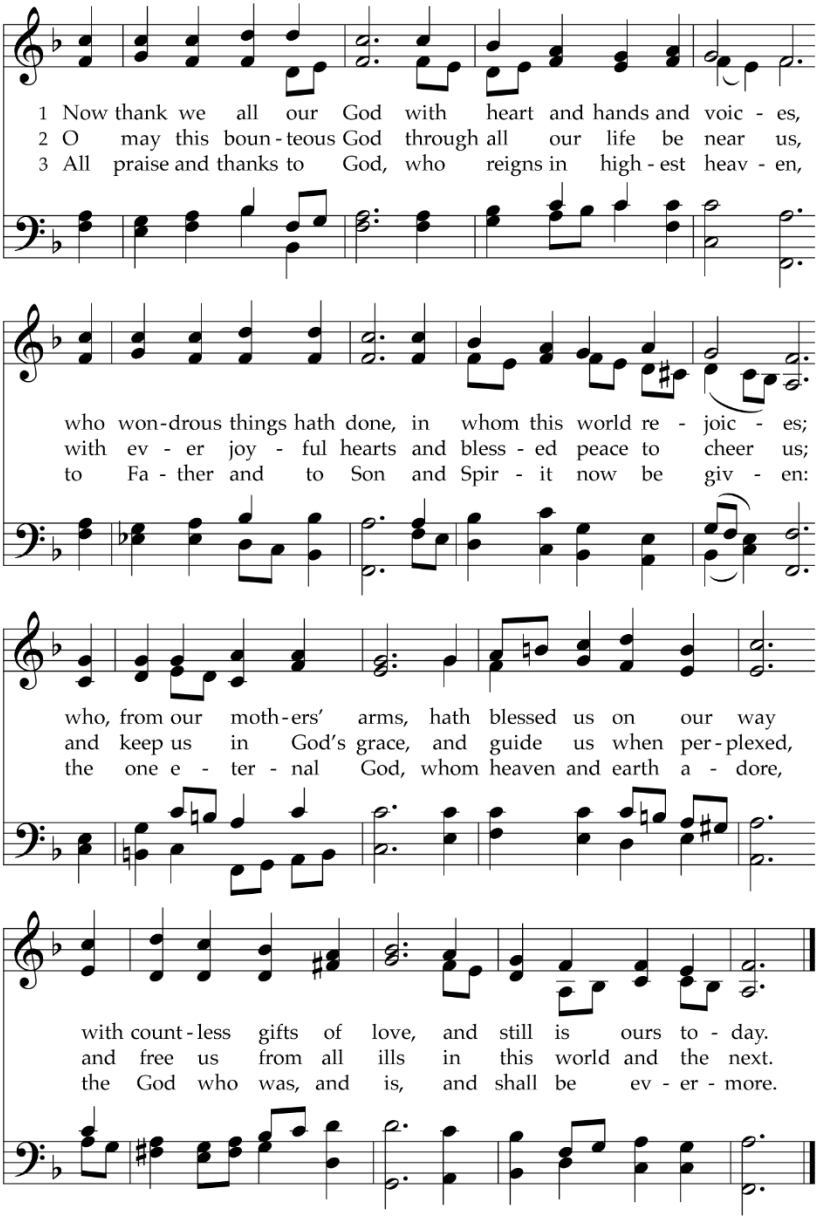
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

***HYMN #643** — Now Thank We All Our God — NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

THANKSGIVING

643 Now Thank We All Our God



Although this hymn is often used on large and festive occasions, its first two stanzas had much humbler beginnings: they originated as a family table prayer during the Thirty Years' War (1618–1648). These words have been associated with this tune since the mid-17th century.

TEXT: Martin Rinkart, c. 1636; trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1858, alt.
MUSIC: Johann Crüger, 1647; harm. Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT
6.7.6.7.6.6.6.6

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Following today's service you are invited to join us for a time of fellowship.

POSTLUDE Come, Ye Thankful People — Taesook Kang
Esther Lee, organ

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS TODAY

We look to our Lord for strength and healing. We look to each other to see our Lord in action. We remember all those in harm's way, those recovering from natural disasters, refugees and people in conflict, and facing new challenges. Among our church family: **Mary Helen Matava** (sister of Kathy Matava), **Cheryl Thurber** (mother of Phoebe Evans Letocha)**, Farrell Silverberg** (father of soloist Hannah Silverberg)**, the friends and loved ones of Darlene George, Jim Elmore, Jerry Korhammer** (brother of Mary Carey), the friends and loved ones of **John Taylor,** the **community of Roland Park** and **David & Danny Guillaume along with the staff and children of Kay Papa Nou & Unity House.**

IN GRATITUDE FOR OUR MUSIC MAKERS

Director of Music: Dr. Phillip Collister-Murray
Organist: Esther Lee
Chancel Choir & Soloists*: Mary Agnes Evans, Elaine Gradowski, Emily Gradowski*, Sharon Halm, Katie Hosier*, Troy Koger*, Carolyn Kramer, Charlotte Kutz*, Peter Murphy*, Dave Patron, Ginny Rutherford, Sandy Rybczynski, Barrie Sigler, Hannah Silverberg*, Jennifer Smith*, Steven Soltow*, Kobe Stephens*, John Walkup
Handbell Choir: Beth Bishop, Jackie Capecci, Elaine Gradowski, Emily Gradowski, Laura Hirschfeld, Katie Hosier, Carolyn Kramer, Richard Letocha, Holden McAleer, Dave Patron, Sandy Rybczynski, Jennifer Smith, Sharon Halm (emeritus)

*Denotes soloist

IN GRATITUDE FOR OUR WORSHIP LEADERS

Liturgist: Barbara Jarvis

IN PREPARATION FOR NEXT SUNDAY

November 29, 2026, 10:30 AM Worship. **Scripture:** Habakkuk 1:1–7; 2:1–4; 3:3b–6, & 3:17-19
Message: Punching Holes in the Dark

IN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Unless otherwise noted, today's Liturgy is written by the Rev. Teri Petersen of the BibleWorm podcast https://www.biblewormpodcast.com/.

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Pursuing Justice · Practicing Hospitality · Engaging Curious Faith

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Alaina Mason, *Childcare Assistant*	

BOARD OF ELDERS

Maggie Arnold (2029**)
Laura Cochran (2028*)
Dan Evans, *Treasurer*
Meghan Friedman (2027**)
Mark W. Hanna, *Moderator*
Laura Hirschfeld (2027*)
Richard Letocha (2029*)
Kathy Matava (2028**)
Suzette Morgan (2027*)
Dave Patron (2028**)
David Patterson (2029*), *Clerk*
Howard Rutherford (2027*)
Chris White (2029**)

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R.T. Arnold (2029*)
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Julie Evans (2028*)
Rob Hirschfeld (2027*), co-moderator
Carolyn Kramer (2027*)
Katie Marsh (2028***)
Elayne Provost (2028**), co-moderator
Sequoya Simermeyer (2029*)
Christine Tennies (2028**)
Susan Walkup (2027*)
Alex Wolfgang (2028***)
* indicates 1st term, ** 2nd term, *** student

An inclusive and welcoming congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the Presbytery of Baltimore.

ROLAND PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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